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***\*Please note: All articles are available in the attached PDF.***

***\*To receive the Daily News Digest in your inbox, email [R6Press@epa.gov](mailto:R6Press@epa.gov).***

**1 – Bella Vista council hears smoke complaints, Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, 12/18/18**

<https://www.nwaonline.com/news/2018/dec/18/bella-vista-council-hears-smoke-complai/>

Several residents attended the City Council meeting Monday. Twenty people came to address the council and more filled the court facility, occupying most of the chairs in it. About 15 people stood alongside either wall.

**2 – Would Trump's rule proposal really help farmers?, E&E News, 12/17/18**

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2018/12/17/stories/1060109885>

While agriculture groups celebrate Trump's WOTUS proposal, legal experts say the rule could create more headaches for farmers. By excluding more ditches from the definition of WOTUS, they say, the proposed rule could mean ditches would instead be regulated by EPA as so-called point sources of pollution.

**3 – As industries circle St. James communities, some prefer buyouts to \$12M evacuation route, Baton Rouge Advocate, 12/17/18**

[https://www.theadvocate.com/baton-rouge/news/communities/article\\_806b448c-fa3b-11e8-9637-eb8fc4cd9360.html](https://www.theadvocate.com/baton-rouge/news/communities/article_806b448c-fa3b-11e8-9637-eb8fc4cd9360.html)

For several years now, Brettaiene Celestin and many of her neighbors along River Road in western St. James Parish have been battling the encirclement of their Burton Street neighborhood with tank farms and the closure of their street's rear access to La. 3127.

**4 – Leaky oil well near New Orleans is plugged: Coast Guard, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 12/17/18**

<https://www.nola.com/environment/2018/12/leaky-oil-well-near-new-orleans-is-plugged-coast-guard.html>

The Coast Guard says a crew has plugged a well that spewed thousands of gallons of oil into water about 40 miles from New Orleans.

**5 – Experts predict legal trouble for Scalia-inspired rule, E&E News, 12/16/18**

[https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060109731/most\\_read](https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060109731/most_read)

The Trump administration has broken away from its predecessors by using a 2006 opinion from the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia in a famously muddled wetlands case in a bid to limit Clean Water Act protection of isolated wetlands and waterways.

**6 – 2018 in court: Climate impacts can't be ignored, E&E News, 12/18/18**

<https://www.eenews.net/energywire/2018/12/18/stories/1060109943>

Over the past 12 months, court dockets once again filled with challenges to federal and state energy policies. Some of the lawsuits forced judges to grapple with the Trump administration's approach to climate analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In a few key cases, the courts ordered federal officials to revisit their reviews.

**7 – Investors pressure Exxon Mobil on climate emissions, Houston Chronicle, 12/17/18**

<https://www.chron.com/business/energy/article/Investors-pressure-Exxon-to-curb-greenhouse-gas-13472230.php>

The nation's largest oil company is coming under mounting pressure from shareholders to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that accelerate climate change.

**8 – Nearly 200 countries at climate talks want universal emissions rules, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 12/17/18**

<https://www.nola.com/environment/2018/12/nearly-200-countries-at-climate-talks-want-universal-emissions-rules.html>

Nearly 200 countries at the U.N. climate talks have agreed upon universal, transparent rules on how nations can cut greenhouse gas emissions and curb global warming, putting the principles of the 2015 Paris climate accord into action.

**9 – UNM petition backs goal for renewable energy, Albuquerque Journal, 12/16/18**

<https://www.abqjournal.com/1258622/unm-petition-backs-goal-for-renewable-energy.html>

A coalition delivered a petition with 1,500 signatures collected from the UNM community in recent months to President Garnett Stokes' office recently in support of a goal that the university pursue 100 percent renewable energy by 2050.